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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 AID-05

CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01

INR-07 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-06 SS-15

SP-02 INT-05 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /131 W
---------- 073271
P R 110958Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1779
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 15279

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, UNEP, GE, GW, FR, UK, US
SUBJECT: GDR REFUSAL TO ACCEPT MEMBER OF FRG DELEGATION
TO UNEP SYMPOSIUM IN GDR

SUMMARY: FRG HAS INFORMED ALLIES IN BONN GROUP THAT GDR HAS REFUSED TO ALLOW AN OFFICIAL OF FEDERAL HEALTH OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN TO PARTICIPATE IN SYMPOSIUM IN GDR SPONSORED BY UN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM. FRG REQUESTS THAT ALLIES MAKE COORDINATED APPROACH ON THE SUBJECT AT UNEP HEADQUATERS IN NAIROBI. END SUMMARY

1. IN SEPTEMBER 7 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG REP (HENZE) INFORMED ALLIES THAT THE GDR HAS REFUSED TO ALLOW AN OFFICIAL OF THE FEDERAL HEALTH OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN TO PARTICIPATE AS MEMBER OF FRG DELEGATION IN A UN-
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SPONSORED SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD IN THE GDR.

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2. ACCORDING TO HENZE, THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE OF EVENTS HAS TAKEN PLACE.

-- ON JANUARY 29, THE FRG WAS INVITED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM (UNEP) IN NAIROBI TO PARTICIPATE IN A SYMPOSIUM ON EUTROPHICATION AND REHABILITATION OF SURFACE WATER. THE SYMPOSIUM IS TO BE HELD IN COLLABORATION WITH THE INSTITUTE OF WATER MANAGEMENT OF THE GDR MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND WATER MANAGEMENT AND IS TO TAKE PLACE IN KARL MARX STADT ON SEPTEMBER 20-25. ACCORDING TO THE UNEP INVITATION, THE NAMES OF PARTICIPANTS WERE TO BE GIVEN TO THE SYMPOSIUM SECRETARIAT WHICH IS COMPOSED OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE GDR INSTITUTE.

-- ON MAY 12, THE FRG PERMREP IN EAST BERLIN INFORMED THE GDR OF FOUR FRG PARTICIPANTS. ON AUGUST 18, NAMES OF TWO MORE FRG PARTICIPANTS WERE SUBMITTED INCLUDING PROFESSOR DR. HAESSELBARTH, DIRECTOR AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT IN THE FEDERAL HEALTH OFFICE (FHO), AN FRG AGENCY LOCATED IN WEST BERLIN.

-- SUBSEQUENTLY, THE GDR REJECTED THE NOMINATION OF HAESSELBARTH SAYING THAT THE FRG PERMREP IN EAST BERLIN WAS QUOTE NOT COMPETENT UNQUOTE TO SUBMIT NAMES. THE FRG HAS RAISED THE MATTER WITH BAUMGAERTEL, THE GDR DCM IN BONN, WHO REITERATED THE QUOTE NOT COMPETENT UNQUOTE RATIONALE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO HENZE, BAUMGAERTEL INDICATED OBLIQUELY THAT WAS NOT THE REAL REASON. THE FRG BELIEVES THAT HAESSELBARTH WAS REJECTED BECAUSE HE WORKS FOR THE FHO AND THE FHO IS LOCATED IN WEST BERLIN.

3. FRG CONCERN IN THE MATTERIS HEIGHTENED BY TWO ADDITIONAL ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION:

-- THIS IS THE FIRST UNEP PROJECT HOSTED IN THE GDR AND, IF LEFT UNCHALLENGED, IT COULD CREATE A SERIOUS CONFIDENTIAL

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PRECEDENT. OFFICIALS FROM THE FHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE PAST IN VARIOUS MEETINGS IN EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. IN THIS REGARD, HENZE POINTED TO RECENT WHO MEETING IN HUNGARY AND AN FAO-WHO MEETING IN POLAND. A GDR PRECEDENT AGAINST THE FHO COULD ERODE THAT POSITION.

-- SECONDLY, UNEP IS RELATIVELY NEW, FOUNDED IN 1973.

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EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCIES TO UNEP. THEREFORE, IT MUST BE EXPECTED THAT MORE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN THE FUTURE IN THESE COUNTRIES.

4. HENZE SAID THAT THE FRG WAS UNCERTAIN WHAT ACTION IT SHOULD TAKE. MATTER HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN NAIROBI WITH US REPRESENTATIVE TO UNEP, AND FRG INTENDS TO APPROACH UNEP SECRETARIAT IN NAIROBI TO REQUEST THAT

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ACTION IO-13

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 15279

IT URGE GDR TO ACCEPT HAESSELBARTH AS MEMBER OF FRG DELEGATION. HOWEVER, GDR/UNEP HOST GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT APPARENTLY PROVIDES ONLY THAT ALL MEMBER STATES OF

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UNEP SHALL BE INVITED TO SEND PARTICIPANTS. UNLIKE
STANDARD HOST AGREEMENTS OF MORE EXPERIENCED UN AGENCIES,
UNEP HOST AGREEMENT APPARENTLY CONTAINS NO GUARANTEE BY
GDR THAT IT WILL PERMIT ENTRY OF INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS
NAMED BY PARTICIPATING STATES. HENZE INDICATED FRG WAS
NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OUTCOME OF APPROACH TO UNEP
SECRETARIAT. THUS, IT WAS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THERE
WOULD BE NO FRG DELEGATION TO THIS SYMPOSIUM. HE SAID
THAT FRG WOULD LIKE ALLIES TO JOIN FRG BY SEPARATELY
REQUESTING UNEP SECRETARIAT TO URGE GDR TO PERMIT
HAESSELBARTH'S ATTENDANCE AT SYMPOSIUM.
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5. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID THIS WAS DIFFICULT
MATTER WHICH WOULD RECUR, IN PARTICULAR WITH RESPECT TO
PARTICIPATION IN SYMPOSIA IN EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN
WHICH FRG FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (FEA) EMPLOYEES
WOULD BE DESIGNATED AS FRG PARTICIPANTS. ABILITY OF
ALLIES TO BE HELPFUL WAS EXTREMELY LIMITED. THERE
MIGHT BE RELUCTANCE TO JEOPARDIZE WORK OF SUCH BODIES
FOR QUOTE POLITICAL UNQUOTE REASONS AND LITTLE
ENTHUSIASM FOR REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE BECAUSE OF AN
ISSUE SUCH AS THIS. IF ALLIES WERE REBUFFED BY
SECRETARIAT OR GDR MAINTAINED ITS REFUSAL TO ACCEPT
HAESSELBARTH, ALLIES WOULD BE IN A RIDICULOUS POSITION
IF THEY ATTENDED THE FUNCTION RATHER THAN BOYCOTTING IT.
FRENCH REP WOULD, HOWEVER, RECOMMEND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT
URGE UNEP SECRETARIAT TO BE HELPFUL. BOISSIEU SAID BONN
GROUP SHOULD FOCUS ON THE BASIC PROBLEM WHICH WE FACE
IN THIS REGARD ON ALL EVENTS SPONSORED BY INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND HOSTED BY EE'S.

6. UK REP (HITCH) STATED HE ALSO DOUBTED HIS GOVERNMENT
WOULD BE WILLING TO JEOPARDIZE UK PARTICIPATION IN
EVENTS HOSTED TY EE'S IF FRG PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE
EMPLOYEES OF AGENCIES LOCATED IN WEST BERLIN WERE
EXCLUDED. US REP EXPRESSED VIEW THAT ONLY LONG-RANGE
SOLUTION LAY IN ENCOURAGING INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES TO
USE HOST GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS WHICH WOULD NOT PERMIT
USSR OR EE'S TO VETO INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS.
FRG REPS EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE FEA, RECENTLY ESTABLISHED
IN BERLIN, WAS LOCATED THERE IN CONNECTION WITH
DEVELOPMENT OF TIES PERMITTED BY QA, FHO WAS AN ORGANIZA-
TION LOCATED IN BERLIN FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS AND
REESTABLISHED THERE IN 1952. THE FHO WAS A PART OF THE
EXISTING SITUATION IN BERLIN. FRG REPS ADDED THAT
HAESSELBARTH WAS NOT CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE BECAUSE HE
CAME FROM THE FHO BUT BECAUSE HE WAS TOP FRG EXPERT IN
FIELD WHICH WAS SUBJECT OF SYMPOSIUM. ACQUIESCENCE IN

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GDR PRESSURE WOULD BE DAMAGING TO WESTERN POSITION IN BERLIN AND COULD LEAVE FRG ONLY WITH OPTION EITHER OF RELOCATING TO FRG FEDERAL OFFICES LOCATED IN BERLIN, OR ELSE RENOUNCING PARTICIPATION IN SUCH FUNCTIONS OF THOSE
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OF ITS EXPERTS EMPLOYED BY FEDERAL OFFICES LOCATED IN BERLIN.

8. ALLIED REPS AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITALS THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO UNEP IN NAIROBI BE AUTHORIZED TO COORDINATE WITH FRG REP THERE ON APPROACHES TO UNEP SECRETARIAT. APPROACHES MIGHT INCLUDE NOT ONLY A REQUEST WITH REGARD TO THE PRESENT PROBLEM BUT ALSO A SUGGESTION THAT UNEP COULD AVOID SUCH PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE BY TIGHTENTING UP THE TERMS OF THE HOST GOVERN-MENT AGREEMENT.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE AN APPROACH IN NAIROBI ALONG LINES NOTED IN PARA 8.
HILLENBRAND

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